

REMARKS

1. In response to the final Office Action mailed June 17, 2005 and the Advisory Action mailed September 23, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. Claims 1-7, 10-14 and 16-27 were last presented for examination. Claims 23, 24 and 27 were rejected in the outstanding Office Action. Claims 25 and 26 were objected to. No Claims have been canceled or added. Claims 23 and 24 were amended. Thus, upon entry of this paper, claims 1-7, 10-14 and 16-27 will remain pending in this application. Of these twenty-four (24) claims, five (5) claims (claims 1, 14, 19, 23 and 27) are independent. Based on the above Amendments and following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the outstanding objections and rejections be reconsidered, and that they be withdrawn.

Art of Record

2. Applicants acknowledge receipt of form PTO-892 identifying additional references made of record by the Examiner.
3. Applicants acknowledge receipt of the form PTO-1449 filed by Applicants on February 28, 2005, which has been initialed by the Examiner indicating consideration of the references cited therein.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 1-7, 10-13, 16-18 and 20-22 are allowable. Applicants also note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 25 and 26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections

5. Independent claim 23 and dependent claim 24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,351,827 to Co, *et al.*(hereinafter, "Co"). Also, independent claim 27 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C §102(b) as being anticipated by the Winbond article of March 8, 2001. Based on the above Amendments and following

Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that these rejections be reconsidered, and that they be withdrawn.

6. As a preliminary matter, Applicants have amended claim 23 and its associated claims for clarity purposes. These amendments are not intended to alter the scope of the claims.

7. Co is directed to margin testing of memory modules using a personal computer motherboard. (*See, Co at Abstract.*) Col. 8 lns. 59-67 of Co disclose a controller card connected to a LAN card of the motherboard. (*See, Co at col. 8 lns. 59-67.*) The controller card is disclosed as sending a pass/fail signal to the LAN card for transmission over a network to a central server. (*Id.*) The central server receives the pass/fail signals and keeps track of statistics, such as total passed and failed modules and test time. (*Id.*) This section, however, does not even mention voltages, let alone measuring an output voltage of a regulator and transmitting the measure voltage to the controller.

8. In response to the above argument, the Examiner stated in the Advisory Action dated September 23, 2005 that these pass/fail signals are being “interpreted as voltages since it would be reasonable interpretation for one of skill in the Art. (*See, Advisory Action*). Although Applicants agree that a pass/fail signal could be transmitted by a transmitting different voltages for pass/fail, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s rejection.

9. Claim 23 recites, in part, a “hardware monitor configured to measure said output voltage of said regulator to determine a measurement value and transmit said measurement value to said controller.” Co, however, does not disclose measuring an output voltage of a regulator to determine a measurement value and transmitting the measurement value. Rather, as discussed above, Co merely teaches a pass/fail signal indicating whether the module passed or failed the test. Thus, even assuming that the Examiner is correct in the Advisory Action and that the pass/fail signals are voltages, Co still fails to teach or suggest the invention of claim 23.

10. Applicants, therefore, respectfully submit that claim 23 is allowable over Co for at least the reason that Co fails to teach or suggest a “hardware monitor configured to measure said output voltage of said regulator to determine a measurement value and transmit said measurement value to said controller.” Applicants therefore respectfully

request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claim 23 for at least this reason.

11. Applicants further respectfully submit that claim 23 is also allowable over Co for at least the following additional reason. Claim 23 recites “a voltage regulator configured to ... generate a regulated output voltage for application to a power rail, said voltage adjuster being coupled to said regulator for varying said regulated output voltage in response to commands from said controller....” The pass/fail signal relied on by the Examiner, however, is not a measurement of an output voltage generated by a voltage regulator for application to a power rail. Rather, as discussed above, this pass/fail signal is merely an indication of whether a tested module passed or failed a test.

12. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 23 is allowable over Co for at least the additional reason that Co fails to teach or suggest a “hardware monitor configured to measure said output voltage of said regulator to determine a measurement value,” where the measured output voltage is generated by a voltage regulator “for application to a power rail.” Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection to claim 23 for at least this additional reason.

13. With regard to independent claim 27, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s rejection for at least the following reasons. Applicants further note that the Examiner in the Advisory Action did not address Applicants arguments. Independent claim 27, recites, in part, “means for transmitting one or more commands to a means for adjusting a voltage to cause the means for adjusting to affect generation of one or more test voltages at a power rail supplying voltage to said components, the means for transmitting implementing an Intelligent Platform Management Interface (IPMI) protocol.” (*See, Applicants claim 27, above.*) In rejecting claim 27, the Examiner relied on paragraph 2 of the Winbond article.

14. The Winbond article is an announcement by Winbond of a Baseband Management Controller (BMC). Paragraph 2 of the Winbond article states that this BMC has passed the ICTS test and is a highly integrated controller developed for IPMI BMC applications. It

15. further states that the BMC has ports supporting remote control and that it can communicate with other platforms (e.g., IPMB, AOL). This section, however, does not mention adjusting voltages, nor generating test voltages at a power rail. In fact, this

section does not mention voltages at all. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the Winbond article fails to teach or suggest “means for transmitting one or more commands to a means for adjusting a voltage to cause the means for adjusting to affect generation of one or more test voltages at a power rail supplying voltage to said components, the means for transmitting implementing an Intelligent Platform Management Interface (IPMI) protocol,” as recited in claim 27.

16. Claim 27 further recites, in part, “means for monitoring said computer system to determine a response to each of said test voltages.” The Examiner relied on paragraph 1 of the Winbond article for allegedly disclosing this limitation. Paragraph 1, however, merely announces an allegedly new interface (IPMI) and that IT managers can get platform management information and physical health status information through IPMI. This section, however, does not mention test voltages, let alone determining a response to test voltages. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the Winbond article fails to teach or suggest “means for monitoring said computer system to determine a response to each of said test voltages,” as recited in claim 27.

17. For at least the above discussed reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections to independent claims 23 and 27.

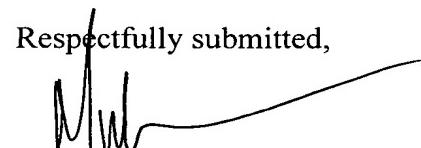
Dependent Claims

18. The dependent claims incorporate all of the subject matter of their respective independent claims and add additional subject matter which makes them a fortiori and independently patentable over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the outstanding rejections of the dependent claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

19. In view of the foregoing, this application should be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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